

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Indochina	REPORT NO.	[REDACTED]
SUBJECT	Traffic in US Dollars in Vietnam	DATE DISTR.	6 May 1954
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. There has been an active traffic in US dollars in Vietnam for a considerable length of time. The dollars are smuggled from France and Thailand to Saigon, the center of the traffic, and from there to Hong Kong to be exchanged for gold and diamonds, both of which are cheaper in Hong Kong than in Vietnam.
2. This traffic is organized by Chinese in Cholon, who use French commercial airline pilots¹ as their only method of smuggling dollars into Hong Kong. Chinese in North Vietnam have not been able to set up their own independent dollar traffic and act merely as agents for the Chinese in Cholon.

- 25X1A 1. [REDACTED] comment. Source also stated that there are French commercial pilots who are engaged in the smuggling of counterfeit US dollars and opium. It is not clear if these activities are carried on independently of or in connection with the traffic in genuine US dollars.

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